

REMARKS**Status of case**

Claims 2, 7, and 20 are pending. Claim 2 is deemed allowed and claims 7 and 20 are deemed allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 8, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants cancel claims 8, 9, and 10 rendering the rejection moot. Applicants reserve the right to submit claims 8, 9, and 10 in a continuation application.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §§ 102, 103

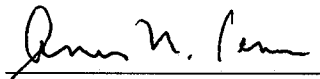
Claims 1, 8, and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kotake (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0126914). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotake in view of Constant (U.S. Patent No. 4,707,698). Claims 3-4, 5-6 and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotake in view of Rodden (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0107181). Claims 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotake and Rodden in view of Levine (U.S. Patent No. 6,140,943).

Applicants cancel claims 1, 3-6, and 8-19 rendering the rejection moot. Applicants reserve the right to submit claims 1, 3-6, and 8-19 in a continuation application. Applicants further rewrite claims 7 and 20 into independent format.

SUMMARY

Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicant via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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